

## House Resolution No.

**Whereas**, it is with heavy hearts that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to acknowledge the significant achievements of a life gone by, that of Army Sergeant Philip J. Svitak, who passed to his eternal reward on March 4, 2002; and

**Whereas**, a former resident of Joplin, Missouri, Philip Svitak was assigned as an aircraft repairman to the 2nd Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, United States Army, and was among seven United States soldiers to lose their lives when al-Qaida and Taliban fighters fired upon two troop-carrying helicopters; and

**Whereas**, following the September 11 attacks on America, Philip Svitak was ready to serve his country in the War on Terrorism in Afghanistan in the hopes of bringing those responsible for the attacks to justice; and

**Whereas**, born in Lincoln, Nebraska, Philip Svitak graduated from Fremont High School in Nebraska in 1989 and participated in the Civil Air Patrol as a teenager before enlisting in the United States Army as a high school student, serving with the 160th from 1989 to 1994; and

**Whereas**, Philip Svitak re-entered the Army in 1998 and was assigned to the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment once again, graduating from the Survival Evasion Resistance and Escape program and making the commandant's list at Fort Campbell's Primary Leadership Development Course, where he learned basic leadership skills; and

**Whereas**, a treasured son, loving husband, and wonderful father, Philip Svitak leaves behind to cherish his memory his devoted wife, Laura Svitak of Clarksville, Tennessee; his two sons, Nolan and Ethan; and his parents, Richard and Roseann Svitak of Neosho, Missouri:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-first General Assembly, unanimously join in paying final tribute to Philip Svitak, a remarkable individual and exceptional member of the United States Army who so bravely gave his life to protect those of his fellow Americans, all of whom will forever remember and appreciate the supreme sacrifice that he had made; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the loved ones of the late Sergeant Philip J. Svitak, as an expression of our deepest sympathy.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Gary L. Burton, No. 128

Representative Chuck Surface, No. 129  
Representative Gary Marble, No. 130  
Representative Sam Gaskill, No. 131  
Representative Steve Hunter, No. 127  
Representative Bubs Hohulin, No. 126

I, Jim Kreider, Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
Ninety-first General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do  
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House  
Resolution No. \_\_\_\_, adopted \_\_\_\_, 2002.

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Jim Kreider, Speaker